Meditative Verse From The
City Of Orodrid

Translated From The Orodrim
By
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Illustrated By
Martha Williams

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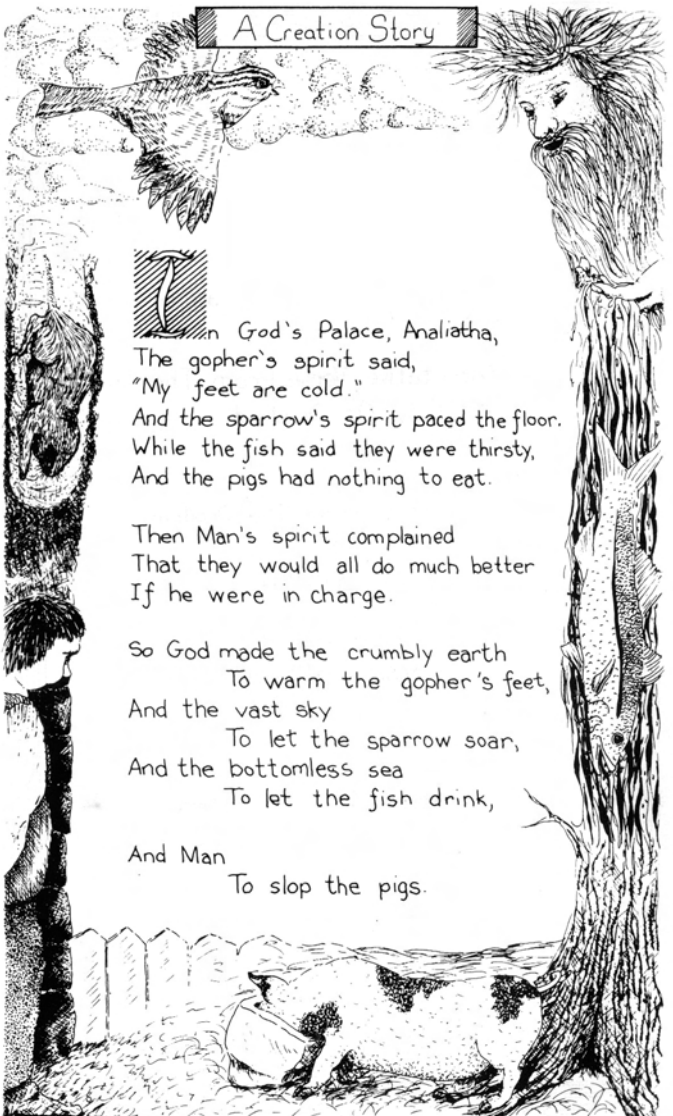
A Creation Story



In God's Palace, Analiatha,
The gopher's spirit said,
"My feet are cold."
And the sparrow's spirit paced the floor.
While the fish said they were thirsty,
And the pigs had nothing to eat.

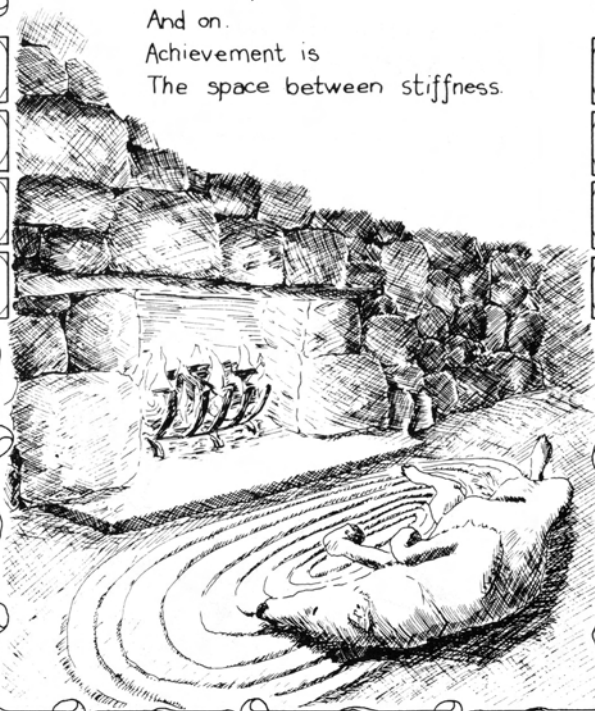
Then Man's spirit complained
That they would all do much better
If he were in charge.

So God made the crumbly earth
To warm the gopher's feet,
And the vast sky
To let the sparrow soar,
And the bottomless sea
To let the fish drink,

And Man
To slop the pigs.

Dolcim 1

And so our lives move
Like sleepy dogs stirring
The hardening floor
And the stiffening joint
Snuffle-search for comfort
Rolling over,
And over,
And on.
Achievement is
The space between stiffness.



Wind like a river
White snake in the hills
The land of my childhood,
Property of my past.

I dug a little ditch here,
I built a little dam.
I'm sorry
I could do nothing about this canyon
But I grew a little tree.

Dolcim 3

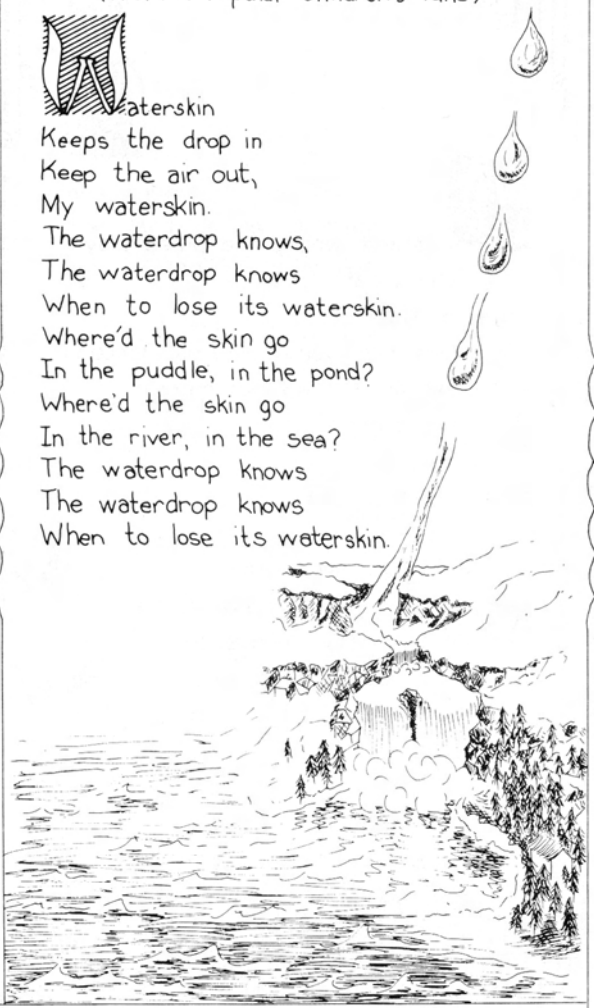
I stand where the pipes play;
The third path I take
Looking back
To when the dance was not forced
And the drink was not mean
And the laughter ran,
Freely,
From our throats.

I would not surrender
Wisdom bought by pain
But reclaim the innocence
Wisdom washed away.

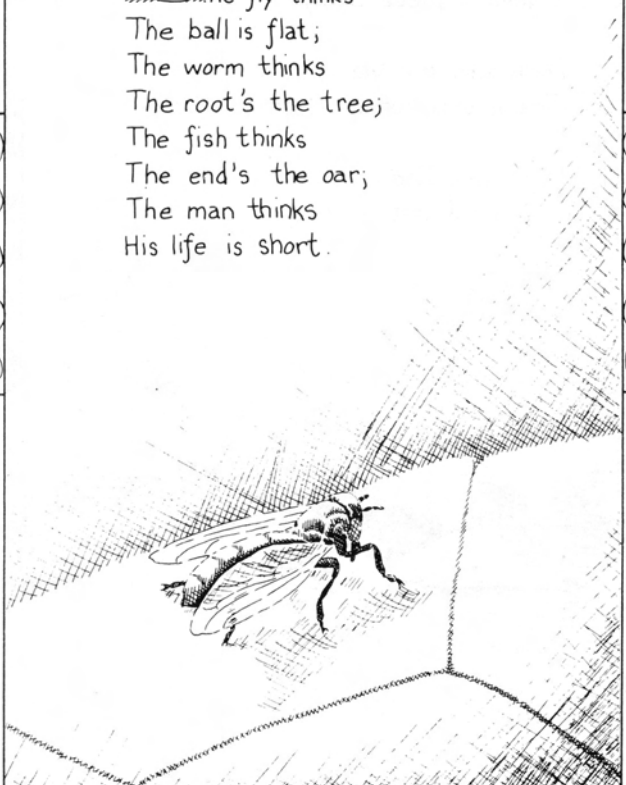
Dowel - Song

(From A Popular Children's Tune)

Waterskin
Keeps the drop in
Keep the air out,
My waterskin.
The waterdrop knows,
The waterdrop knows
When to lose its waterskin.
Where'd the skin go
In the puddle, in the pond?
Where'd the skin go
In the river, in the sea?
The waterdrop knows
The waterdrop knows
When to lose its waterskin.



The fly thinks
The ball is flat;
The worm thinks
The root's the tree;
The fish thinks
The end's the oar;
The man thinks
His life is short.



Kartek 2

Dawn saw the Me in I,
And everything was mine.

Noon saw the You in I;
I gave a piece away.

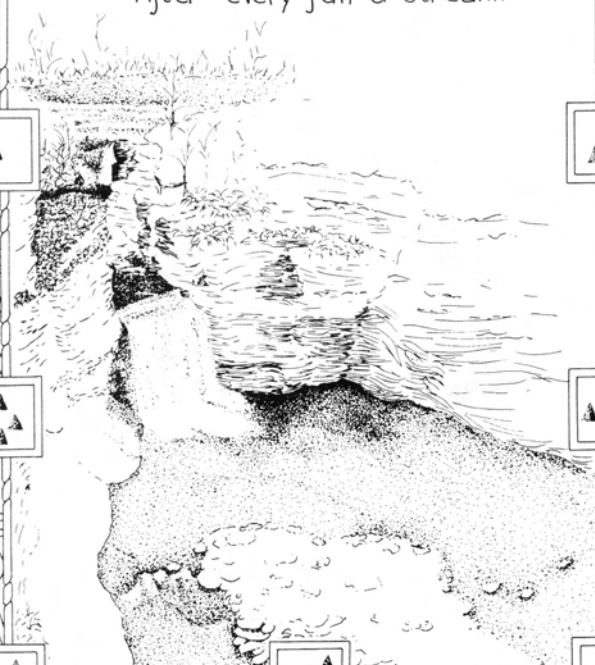
Dusk saw the We in I;
There was nothing left to give.

Night saw Itself in I:
I had not lost a thing.

After every hill a valley;
After every stream a fall.

--But--

After every valley a hill;
After every fall a stream.

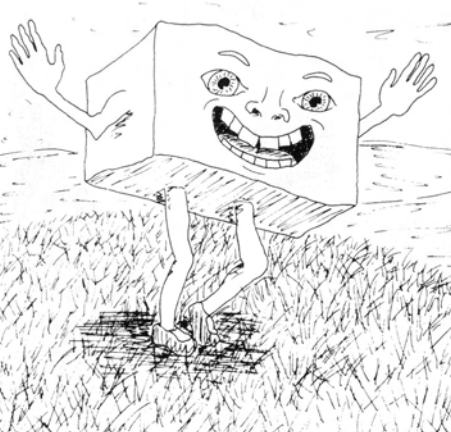


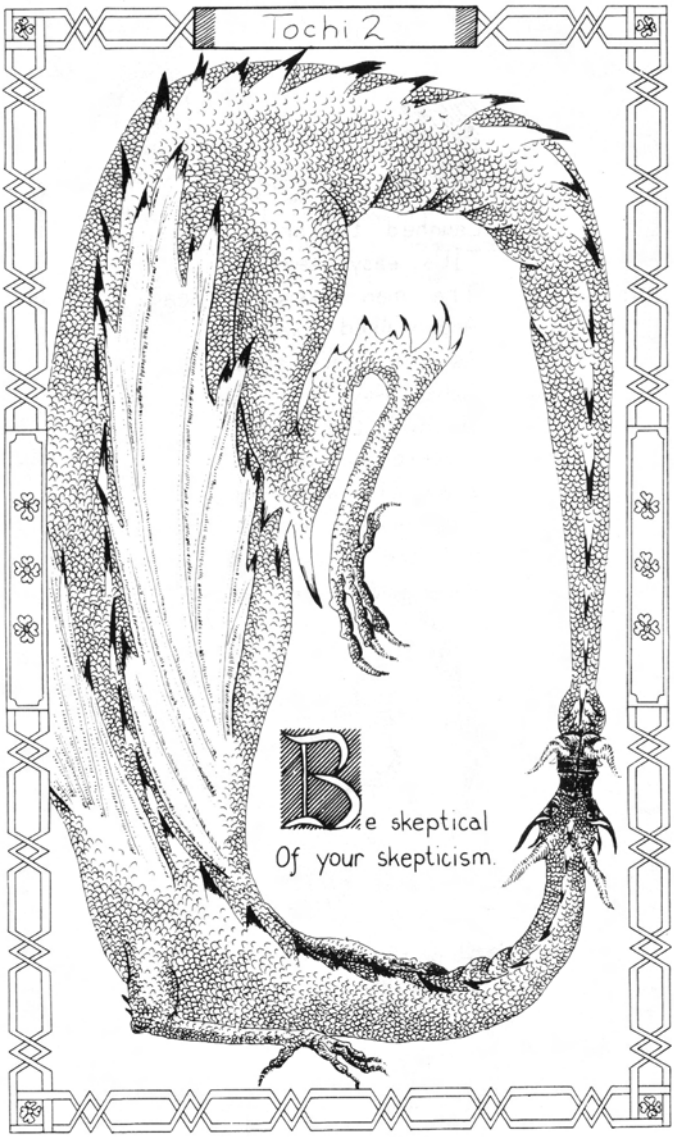
Socen's Torment

How should I know
When the moment comes
How should I know where to strike?
The road has been so long and hard
And now it comes to this
A single tap
The sound of glass
And the rush of truth
In a moment's breath.

But the way is murky
My path confused
I look up to the light.

can be a wall,"
Laughed the brick
"It's easy, see?"
The man shook his head
And walked away
As the brick strained
"Whoa! Hey!"
Shouted the brick,
"Where you going?
I am the wall, see?
The wall's in me!"
But the bricklayer
Passed over the hill.




Tochi 2
Be skeptical
Of your skepticism.

Tochi 3

Duty
Responsibility:
Old man's tongue.

Change,
Possibility!
Cry the young.
But the ants chant
Of possibility
In responsibility
And the wind whispers
The duty
Of change.

Canatka 1

The clouds take their meaning
The beetle plays a role
The aardvark's claws,
Meant for digging;
He does it very well.

The purpose of the mushroom
The reason for the drought
And Sickness,
Brought by those Unclean;
Punishment, they say.

Man
The Great Connect
Or
Must put things
To
Gether.

Ganatka 2

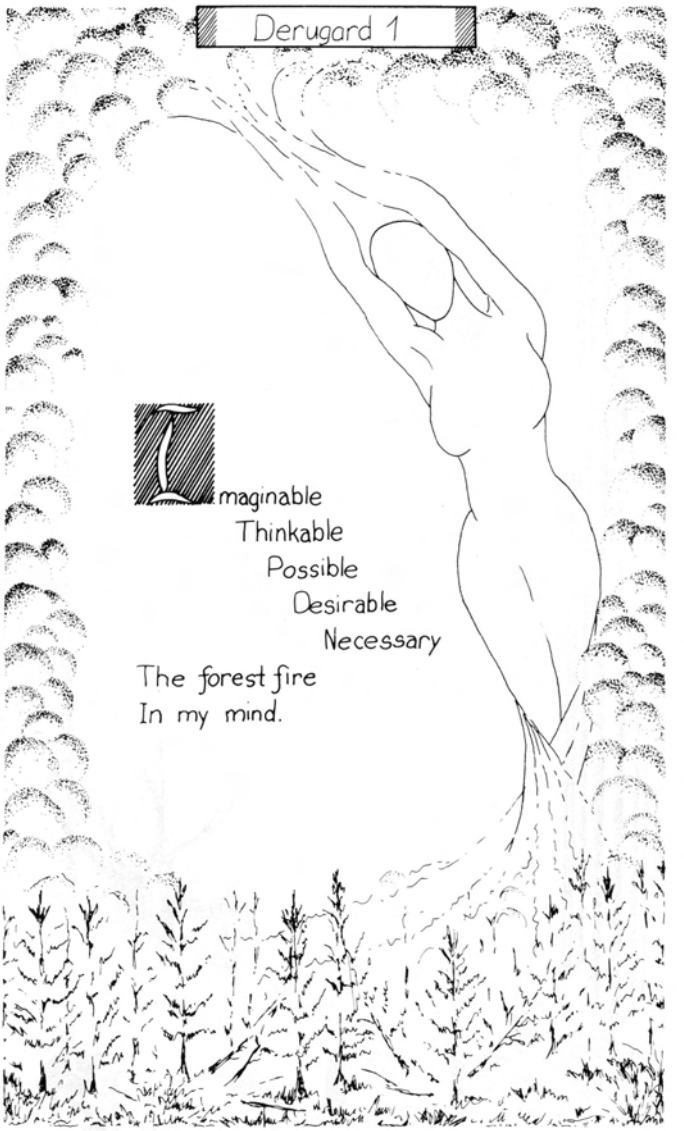
Beauty is the muscle
Deep within the heart
When it pulls
It grows in you
When it grows it sees
What it sees
It shows in you
Practice Beauty
Exercise Beauty
Beauty builds
In the heart that sees.

Deketa Song

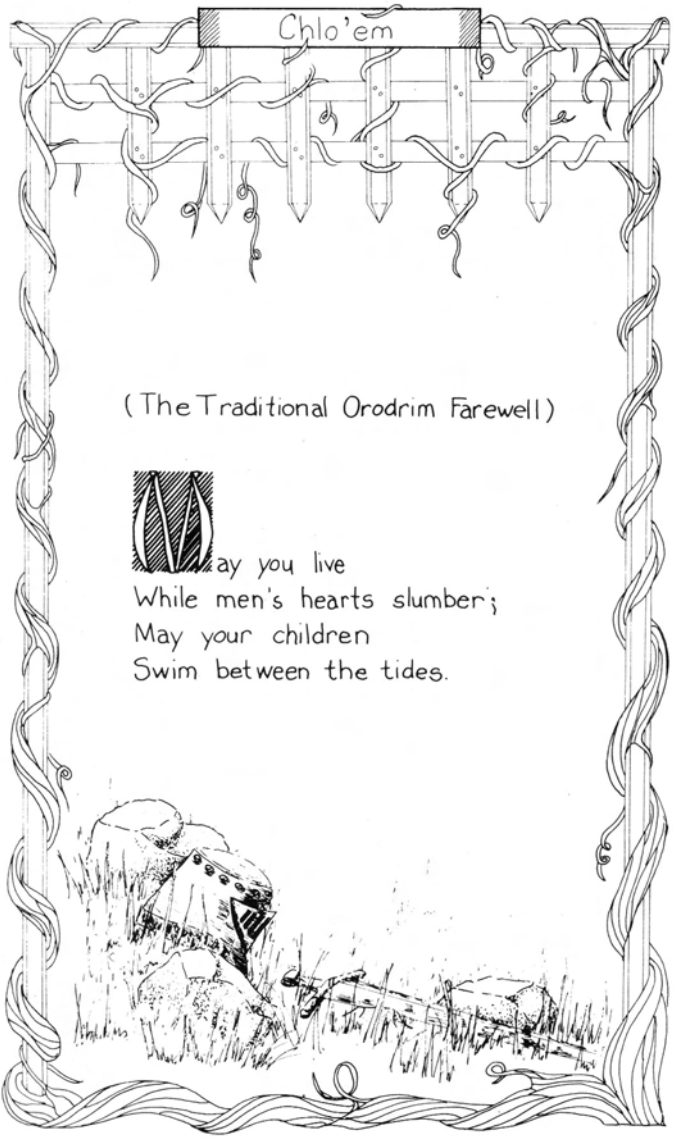
(Traditional Parent's Song)

The faster you go by
The less I have a hold
I can't believe
It's been that long
You used to move so slow.

The faster you go by
The more I see you've grown
You shift so fast
I aim so slow
I miss you every day.


Derugard 1
Imaginable
Thinkable
Possible
Desirable
Necessary
The forest fire
In my mind.

Yes, there is a way
And we know it
I sit by the One Tree
And think
Of easy slopes
Yes, there is a way
And we know it
--But will we take it?


Chlo'em
(The Traditional Orodrim Farewell)
May you live
While men's hearts slumber;
May your children
Swim between the tides.